Applicant: Robert F. Rosenbluth, et al. PATENT
Serial No.: 10/730.860 Atty Docket: 388700-001BC

Art Unit: 3731

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 33 and cancel claims 58-61 as set forth below.

Listing of Claims

1-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) An embolectomy catheter system for removing a blood clot or other embolus from a location within the vasculature of a human or animal subject, the catheter comprising:

a quidewire:

an embolectomy catheter that is advanceable over said guidewire, said embolectomy catheter comprising:

an elongate flexible catheter body having a proximal end, a distal end, an inner tube, and an outer tube terminating proximal to a distal end of the catheter body;

an embolus removal apparatus on the inner tube, the embolus removal apparatus being initially disposed in a collapsed configuration and constrained in said collapsed configuration by a portion of the outer tube; and

a distal tip of the catheter body being located on the inner tube and adapted to pass through a blood clot or other embolus to be removed;

wherein the outer tube is axially retractable to remove the constraint on the embolus removal apparatus such that the embolus removal apparatus may expand from said collapsed configuration to a deployed configuration without requiring axial movement or rotation of the guidewire; and

wherein the guidewire is longitudinally moveable relative to the embolus removal apparatue;

said embolus removal apparatus comprising a plurality of resilient members having proximal and distal ends that are secured to the catheter body and mid-portions that extend laterally away from the catheter body when the embolus removal apparatus

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is in its deployed configuration, thereby allowing embolic material to become entangled in said elongate members, said resilient members being wrapped around said inner tube in a helical manner when in said collapsed configuration.

34 (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 33, wherein the outer tube

extends distally within a proximal mouth of the distal tip prior to being retracted.

35-46. (Cancelled)

47 (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 33, wherein the embolus

removal apparatus has a proximal end and a distal end, the distal end being attached to the inner tube and the proximal end being slidably secured to the inner tube in such a

manner as to slide axially over the inner tube.

48-50. (Cancelled)

51. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 33 wherein a lumen through

which the guidewire may pass extends through the inner tube and through the embolus

removal device.

52. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 33 wherein the guidewire

has a lumen through which a substance may be infused.

53. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 33 wherein the embolus

removal apparatus expands from its collapsed configuration to its deployed configuration without requiring rotation of any portion of the embolectomy catheter or

auidewire.

54-61. (Cancelled)

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